

***Amendments to the Specification***

In the specification, please amend the CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS section on pages 1 and 2 as follows:

This application claims ~~priority to~~ the benefit of the following provisional applications:

U.S. ~~Patent~~ Provisional Application Serial No. 60/182,470, entitled "Intelligent Silence Suppression," filed February 15, 2000, by Gummalla et al., (~~still pending~~) (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

U.S. ~~Patent~~ Provisional Application Serial No. 60/247,188 (~~Attorney Docket No. CPH 40892 (BP 1560)~~), entitled "A Local Scheduling Mechanism for Cable Modems," filed November 9, 2000, by Sala et al., (~~still pending~~) (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

U.S. ~~Patent~~ Provisional Application Serial No. 60/254,415 (~~Attorney Docket No. CPH 40892 (BP 1560.1)~~), entitled "A Local Scheduling Mechanism for Cable Modems," filed December 8, 2000, by Sala et al., (~~still pending~~) (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

U.S. ~~Patent~~ Provisional Application Serial No. 60/262,201 (~~Attorney Docket No. CPH 41359 (BP 1702)~~), entitled "Voice Scheduling Algorithms," filed January 17, 2001, by Sala et al., (~~still pending~~) (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

U.S. ~~Patent~~ Provisional Application Serial No. 60/262,203 (~~Attorney Docket No.~~  
~~CPH 41362 (BP 1705)~~), entitled "Concatenation of Requests at CMTS," filed January 17,  
2001, by Sala et al., (~~still pending~~) (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

This application ~~claims priority to~~ is a continuation-in-part of ~~the following non-~~  
~~provisional application:~~ U.S. Patent Serial No. 09/427,792, entitled "System and Method  
for Multiplexing Data from Multiple Sources," filed October 27, 1999, by Limb et al.,  
(~~still pending~~) now U.S. Patent No. 6,804,251 (incorporated by reference in its entirety  
herein).

This application is related to the following non-provisional applications, all  
having the same filing date as the present application:

"Method, System and Computer Program Product for Scheduling Upstream  
Communications", U.S. Patent Serial No. ~~TBD~~ 09/783,404 (~~Attorney Docket No.~~  
~~1875.0440002~~), by Gummalla et al. (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

~~"System and Method to Support Constant Bit Rate Services in a Shared~~  
~~Communication System~~ Voice Architecture For Transmission Over A Shared,  
Contention Based Medium," U.S. Patent Serial No. ~~TBD~~ 09/785,020, (~~Attorney Docket~~  
~~No. 40672/LTR/B600~~) by Gummalla et al. (incorporated by reference in its entirety  
herein).

"System and Method for Suppressing Silence in Voice Traffic over an  
Asynchronous Communication Medium," U.S. Patent Serial No. ~~TBD~~ 09/783,405,  
Atty. Dkt. No. 1875.0450001

~~(Attorney Docket No. 1875.0430001)~~ by Gummalla et al., (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).

“Cable Modem System and Method for Specialized Data Transfer,” U.S. Patent Serial No. ~~TBD-09/783,403~~, ~~(Attorney Docket No. 1875.0460001)~~ by Bunn et al., (incorporated by reference in its entirety herein).